

According to the Freedom House Survey of the World Freedom, Bongo was declared the winner before many voters were counted and after a campaign that included extensive use of state resources and state media. Further, widespread irregularities were reported by the International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) and the National Democratic Institute (NDI), which served as observers during the Gabonese presidential and legislative elections in 1993.

The electoral victory by President Bongo led to several months of civil unrest and violent repression. Some observers in Gabon believe more civil unrest will occur if the presidential elections this December are considered illegitimate. A free and fair electoral system would further democracy and stability in Gabon and set an example for other African nations.

Mr. President, this resolution calls on the Gabonese government to take measures to help ensure credible presidential elections. The measure calls on the government to invite IFES, the NDI, the International Republican Institute (IRI), the Center for Democracy or other appropriate non-governmental organizations to aid or observe the December 1998 Gabonese presidential elections.

The resolution also urges the United States and the international community to offer assistance for fair elections in Gabon and to encourage movement toward a stable democracy.

Gabon is at a turning point. It enjoys a per capita income of \$4,700, a high literacy rate (69 percent), and a billion dollar oil industry. The United States Senate would be aiding Gabon in the establishment of a stronger democracy that can help bring stability to a volatile region of Africa.

I urge my colleagues to consider the benefits of free and fair elections in Gabon and to support this resolution.●

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 286—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT MARK MCGWIRE AND SAMMY SOSA SHOULD BE COMMEMENDED FOR THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Mr. MACK submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to.

S. RES. 286

Whereas the recent conclusion of the regular baseball season marked the end of an unprecedented home run race between the St. Louis Cardinals' Mark McGwire and the Chicago Cubs' Sammy Sosa;

Whereas both broke Roger Maris' home run record that many thought would stand untouched as indeed it has since Maris passed the "Babe" by one home run when he hit his 61st some 37 years ago;

Whereas "Mighty Mac" rounded out his record setting season by sending two more over the fence in the team's final game to finish the year with 70 home runs while "Slammin' Sammy" finished close behind with 66;

Whereas McGwire and Sosa brought to the game much more than a new record for the

books, even though they are both great competitors, they showed the nation how competitors can show mutual respect and appreciation toward each other and to the game;

Whereas Mark McGwire is surely an ideal role model for tomorrow's baseball stars as evidenced by his quiet dignity, love of the game and respect for his competitors which was clearly demonstrated the night he broke the home run record—from his triumphant jog around the bases, to hugging his son at home plate, to saluting Sammy Sosa, and then finally spending a few moments in the stands with the family of Roger Maris;

Whereas Sammy Sosa who stayed on McGwire's heels throughout the home run chase is also a role model who, as a native from the Dominican Republic, rose from near poverty to be one of the greatest home run hitters in the history of the game, and is a hero in his home country where he continues to share his success by funding special programs for its underprivileged children;

Whereas the nation witnessed this year a flashback to an earlier time when the fans felt a connection to the players and the players gave their all for the fans;

Whereas baseball is a game of magic moments, like a perfect game or a triple play—or watching the ball fly over the fence for a home run, and, this year, McGwire and Sosa brought the nation plenty of those magic moments; and

Whereas through class and character Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa are modern day heroes who brought out the best in baseball and reminded us all why baseball is the great American past time: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa are to be commended for their record achievement, for reinvigorating the game of baseball, for their decency, and for giving our children sports heroes worthy of that status.

Mr. MACK. Mr. President, this morning I have sent a resolution to the desk commending Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa for a remarkable baseball season. I suspect that many of our colleagues in the Senate, and the entire Nation, for that matter, were focused on that last couple of weeks, the contest between those two individuals.

I think, at least from my perspective as I watched events unfold, there were times people would come up to me and ask, Who do you want to win? My reaction was—like, I suspect, many others'—it would have been great if it was a tie.

The way the two individuals interacted with each other and their attitude about the game were just, I think, a remarkable statement.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 287—TO AUTHORIZE REPRESENTATION BY SENATE LEGAL COUNSEL

Mr. LOTT (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted the following resolution; which considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 287

Whereas, Senator Daniel K. Inouye has been named as a defendant in the case of *O'Leary v. Fujikawa, et al.*, Case No. 98-16439, now pending in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit;

Whereas, pursuant to sections 703(a) and 704(a)(2) of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, 2 U.C.S. §§288b(a) and 288c(a)(1), the Senate may direct its counsel to represent

Members of the Senate in civil actions with respect to their official responsibilities: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate Legal Counsel is authorized to represent Senator Daniel K. Inouye in the case of *O'Leary v. Fujikawa, et al.*

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

##### INTERNET TAX FREEDOM ACT

##### SHELBY AMENDMENTS NOS. 3685–3694

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. SHELBY submitted 10 amendments intended to be proposed by him to the bill (S. 442) to establish a national policy against State and local government interference with interstate commerce on the Internet or interactive computer services, and to exercise congressional jurisdiction over interstate commerce by establishing a moratorium on the imposition of exactions that would interfere with the free flow of commerce via the Internet, and for other purposes; as follows:

##### AMENDMENT No. 3685

On page 14, line 8, strike "2 years" and insert "21 months".

##### AMENDMENT No. 3686

On page 14, line 8, strike "2 years" and insert "24 months".

##### AMENDMENT No. 3687

On page 14, line 8, strike "2 years" and insert "27 months".

##### AMENDMENT No. 3688

On page 14, line 8, strike "2 years" and insert "30 months".

##### AMENDMENT No. 3689

On page 14, line 8, strike "2 years" and insert "33 months".

##### AMENDMENT No. 3690

On page 10, line 22, strike "January 1, 2004," and insert "January 1, 2005,".

##### AMENDMENT No. 3691

On page 10, line 22, strike "January 1, 2004," and insert "January 1, 2006,".

##### AMENDMENT No. 3692

On page 10, line 22, strike "January 1, 2004," and insert "January 1, 2007,".

##### AMENDMENT No. 3693

On page 10, line 22, strike "January 1, 2004," and insert "January 1, 2008,".

##### AMENDMENT No. 3694

On page 10, line 22, strike "January 1, 2004," and insert "January 1, 2009,".

##### COATS AMENDMENT NO. 3695

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. COATS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill, S. 442, supra; as follows:

On page 17, between lines 15 and 16, insert the following:

(c) EXCEPTION TO MORATORIUM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) shall also not apply in the case of any person or entity